

The Flagstaff Union Parish Profile  
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Flagstaff Union Parish May 2008

The following is from a brief interview the **National Mission Office** had with Carolyn.

*What did the Parish find valuable about doing the profile?*

Carolyn said that the parish had found the stats particularly interesting, especially the fact that there were many more Asian people in the area than was generally recognised. It was also useful to see what groups of people attended church and just how big a mission field there was out there.

The profile also showed community areas where people congregate. This opens up creative ways in which parish people could be involved with the community. The parish also ran a holiday program in July in Halfway Bush, because they had learned that there were many more children there than in Wakari, where the program is usually held. It was very successful with 65-70 children and adults attending, many of them previously unknown to people in the parish.

The profile was also shared with a local rest home, who found the information useful in terms of their own future planning.

*Who initiated the profile?*

It was part of Carolyn's job description, coming out of a desire from the leadership to know more about the make-up of the parish.

*Following:*

Flagstaff Union Parish Profile  
Template for similar Parish Profiles

## **Flagstaff Union Parish Profile**

Flagstaff parish covers the hill suburbs in Dunedin comprising of Halfway Bush, Helensburgh and Wakari, with a total population of 5954 (2006 Census). It is so named because of its position on the lower slopes of Flagstaff, a 400m summit which dominates much of Dunedin.

There are 3 primary schools in the parish area, 1 in Halfway Bush which is rated as decile 4 (decile 1 being most deprived and decile 10 being least deprived). Halfway Bush school has a roll of 55. We also have Wakari School rated as decile 8 with a roll of 305 and St Mary's school, rated decile 7 with a roll of 48. Balmacewen Intermediate school has a roll of 367 students and a decile rating of 9, this school has a larger catchment area with a % of students coming from out of our parish boundaries.

Flagstaff Union Parish has churches in both Halfway Bush and Wakari, both churches have halls that are presently utilised for Guides, line dancing, Boys Brigade and a local art group to name a few.

The Halfway Bush community has a dairy, a community hall in the school grounds along with some large fields and a playground. Wakari Community has a number of shops together including a bottle shop, hairdresser and vets. Helensburgh has a number of small shops also placed together, these include a dairy, chemist, fish and chip shop, a café and hairdressers.

There is also a community hall in Holyrood Avenue, utilised by Scout groups, a Care and Craft group and a martial arts group.

## Population Statistics:

### Population according to age groups – 2006 Census

	Helensburgh	Wakari	Halfway Bush	TOTAL	% of total
Under 15yrs	204	621	396	1221	20.5%
15 – 24 yrs	135	456	258	849	14.2%
25 – 44yrs	264	924	564	1752	29.4%
45 – 64 yrs	255	680	417	1352	22.7%
65+ yrs	150	381	249	780	13%
				<b>Total Pop 5954</b>	

- There is a relatively even spread of age groups
- Showing a lower % of 15- 24 yrs and 65+ yrs
- 20.5% of under 15's is a significant group that is easily captured and we could/are working with

*Is our Parish reflective of the above table or are we heavily weighted in a specific age area?*

### Comparison of total pop % in Community in age brackets with Flagstaff parish statistics.

	% of total population in Helensburgh, Wakari, Halfway bush = census 2006	% members, adherants, families Flagstaff visiting list 2007
Under 15years	20.5%	21%
15- 24 years	14.2%	9%
25 – 44 years	29.4%	15%
45 – 64 years	22.7%	36%
65+ years	13%	18%

- There is a lower % of 15 – 24 yr olds reflected in our regular parish attendees. There are many in this age bracket that do have a connection and would increase this % but this is still an age bracket that we could increase on.

- There is almost 50% lower 25 – 44 yr olds within our regular parish attendees than in our community's population – would suggest that this is an age bracket that could be investigated as to why we are not reflective of this age bracket?

### Ethnic Statistics:

#### Ethnic Group – Comparison (2001 Census) – 2006 Census

	<b>European</b>	<b>Maori</b>	<b>Pacific</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Helensburgh</b>	(912) <b>759</b>	(42) <b>45</b>	(9) <b>12</b>	(48) <b>60</b>	(9) <b>186</b>
<b>Wakari</b>	(2775) <b>2286</b>	(138) <b>174</b>	(75) <b>63</b>	(99) <b>192</b>	(18) <b>543</b>
<b>Halfway Bush</b>	(1785) <b>1479</b>	(114) <b>129</b>	(42) <b>60</b>	(45) <b>48</b>	(6) <b>321</b>

#### Points to note:

- A high increase in "other" over all areas, most likely explanation for this is the high number of people in 2006 census who classified themselves as "new Zealander" rather than "European"
- An increase in all areas for Asian ethnicity, especially seen in Wakari
- Suggests a possible need to services/connections for different ethnicities within our community

*Once again we need to ask is our Parish make-up reflective of these statistics?*

## Religion Statistics:

### Religious Affiliation – 2006 Census

<b>Religion</b>	Anglican	Catholic	Presbyterian, Congregational And Reformed	Methodist	Pentecostal	Baptist	Other Religion	No Religion	Object to answering
<b>Helensburgh</b>	93	111	249	27	18	9		390	48
<b>Wakari</b>	237	387	603	57	36	45		1146	192
<b>Halfway Bush</b>	153	183	375	39	9	27		795	99

#### Points to note:

- We have 1,350 people who have affiliated themselves as Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational or Reformed. Our 2 churches have approx 208 on the visiting list. Given that maybe 20% travel out of the area to attend church, so then where are the other 855 people?
- Need to bear in mind that those 1,350 felt strongly enough to tick the box on the census paper as Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational or Reformed, which they are not required to do but felt sufficiently connected to these to tick the box

- Consider this equation ...

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \textit{Total number Presbyterian etc} \quad 1,350 \\
 + \textit{ Total number with no religion} \quad 2,331 \\
 \hline
 \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 3,681 \textit{ people}
 \end{array}$$

*Flagstaff Union Parish have 208 on our pastoral roll so therefore we are only catering for 5.6% of the possible mission field in our parish.*

## Income Statistics:

### Family incomes – Census 2006

	\$20000 less	20000- 30000	30000- 50000	50000- 70000	70000- 100000	100 000+	Not stated
Helensburgh	18 16%	21 7%	57 19%	63 21%	57 19%	57 19%	27 9%
Wakari	72 8%	120 14%	171 20%	174 20%	123 15%	87 10%	87 10%
Halfway bush	39 8%	66 13%	96 19%	114 23%	81 16%	33 16%	69 14%

#### Points to note:

- Generally overall sitting in range of \$ 30 – 70 000 income
- Larger % of people in Wakari and Halfway Bush on \$20 – 30 00
- A higher % seen in Helensburgh in \$100 000 income bracket

We should be aware of a proposed Westacott Park development of 110 sections near upper Halfway Bush, which is still in the proposal stage, but if it went ahead it would impact our community.

Two community meetings have been hosted by Flagstaff Union Parish, one in December 2007 and a further meeting in October 2008. Several agencies spoke of their concerns within our parish community, the following points were highlighted more than once:

- Lonely isolated people
- Youth drugs/alcohol
- Increasing number of people who cannot drive
- Grandparents bringing up their grandchildren

Social contact is made through various community organisations such as Wakari Toddler group, Bowling club, art group, local churches, the local schools and kindergartens. Flagstaff community also has 2 playgrounds – 1 in Wakari and 1 in Halfway Bush, there is also a Dog Park in the middle of our communities which is constantly being used and serves as a social meeting ground.

Although we have 5 halls within our community there does not seem to be a “community centre” where the community can drop in on or seem to own.

The main industry with our community is Wakari Hospital, a hospital that currently caters for mental health patients. Within the next 3 – 4 years Otago District Health Board is developing the Wakari Hospital site considerably by bringing all Mental Health facilities up to Wakari, it is also planned to bring all Corporate/Management for ODHB up to Wakari as well (increasing staff numbers by 300+). This will make the Wakari Hospital site a much busier site both transport wise and staffing. Wakari hospital has several agencies attached to it such as ISIS – a rehabilitation unit, Public Health South (in the plan to be brought up to Wakari in next 5 years)

This major industry which looks to grow considerably within the next 2 – 5 years definitely provides opportunity for Flagstaff Union Parish to play a part in building relationships and working alongside Wakari Hospital. On the grounds of Wakari Hospital there is a chapel which is currently unused although management are looking into this.

Within our community we also have a hospital for the elderly – Leslie Groves, with average patient numbers of 50. At present our involvement is visiting for carol singing at Christmas time.

Ashburn Clinic is situated in Halfway Bush and is a private clinic for mental health patients. The local medical centre has 1 500 patients coming through their door each year, this is a significant number that we should be aware of and in our consideration of places people frequent in our community.

The community offers a wide range of activities catering for all age groups, bush walks of Flagstaff and Ross Creek, a golf course, bowling green, sports grounds for rugby and cricket, pony club, art and craft groups, pre-school music groups and toddlers playgroups to name a few.

As a parish we have a wide make-up of population, ethnicities and socio-economic factors. There are a number of opportunities in our parish which we could focus on. Main question is:

*If this is who is making up our community are we then as a church reflective of this make – up?*

In summary it is an attractive, well serviced community with all the aspects of the city and the nearby countryside.

Carolyn Sims  
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Flagstaff Union Parish  
May 2008

## **A possible lay-out for other parishes/areas based on the Flagstaff Template**

Introduction – why the study was done.

Brief history/background of the area.

Population size (*available from National Mission Office*)

Information about the Presbyterian Church in the area, and what its halls are used for.

Other community halls, and the shops in the area. Anything that focuses on the community.

**Population** by broad age groups (under 15, 15-24, 25-44, 45-64, over 65) broken up into three suburbs in this instance. Short comments about numbers in ranges. (*NMO can supply*) How do the parish figures align to the population stats? (*NMO can supply*)

**Ethnic stats.** (*NMO can supply*)

Is the parish role in any way reflective of the ethnic make-up of the community?

**Religious affiliation stats.** (*NMO can supply*)

**Income stats.** (*NMO can supply*) Breakdown of income status, and whether this has any effect on the parish. Note about a new development in area, and whether this will change things.

**Communication:** telephone, internet access, mobiles – useful in the light of the number of people now making these their way of keeping in touch. (*NMO can supply*)

**Community Meetings.** The Template Parish hosted two community meetings with service agencies to find out about social issues such as:

- Lonely isolated people
- Youth drugs/alcohol
- Increasing number of people who cannot drive
- Grandparents bringing up their grandchildren, and other issues

A paragraph on ways in which people meet in the community: toddlers' groups, clubs, etc. A note on whether there is a community hall or meeting place.

**Main industry** in the area – how does it affect the area?

Mention of Old People's homes, private Hospitals, range of activities available in area.

Number and rolls of primary schools (or secondary, if applicable) and the deciles (decile 1 being most deprived and decile 10 being least deprived).

Question starter: *If these are the people making up our community is our church reflective of this make-up?*

*Note: National Mission Office can supply a number of other stats, depending on what is required.*

